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Chairman Gregory Russ
New York City Housing Authority
250 Broadway
New York, NY
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Dear Chairman Russ,

On Thursday, October 15th, I visited Campos Plaza II and attended a tenant association meeting to discuss residents' urgent needs and concerns. What I heard and observed was deeply upsetting, and I would like to relay my findings to you.

Upon entering the lobby of 612 East 14th Street, I was struck with an overwhelming odor. Residents were plugging their noses as they entered the building and waited for the elevator. I am told that the scent is the result of an "extermination" that occurred, wherein the corpses of several hundred dead rats were removed from the ceiling. I understand that during this removal, several live rats escaped into the building. The hole in the ceiling where these rats escaped from has not been permanently repaired, and residents tell me that there have been no further extermination efforts, despite the fact that several rats have been observed in the lobby of 612 East 14th Street. It is of utmost importance that extermination services are performed at this building as soon as possible, that the removal of the putrefying dead rats continues, and that the hole in the ceiling is repaired expeditiously.

Secondly, I would like to address the unfinished repairs in the community center at 611 East 13th street. I am told that mold removal was performed throughout the center, and that repairs to the kitchen were to be completed so that the Campos's childcare program could resume. After speaking with the Senior Director of the program, I was told that mold can still be found in the kitchen, and that repairs to the stove, oven and vent have not been completed. I ask that these repairs be addressed expeditiously, as the childcare program is comprised predominately of NYCHA families and is a vital service to the parents who rely on these childcare services daily.

Next, I am told that there are several external repairs that need to be addressed throughout the development. Top floor tenants throughout Campos Plaza II complained of roof leaks that have gotten progressively worse. Each time they report the leaks, they report that no permanent

fix is made and that the leaks return or new leaks form each time there is heavy rain. I also understand that the facade repairs are required on all of the buildings, and that a security guard was nearly struck and killed by a falling brick. Residents are deeply concerned for the safety of their families and friends given the danger posed by the crumbling facade. Finally, there are many concerns over security, as the locks on the front doors are often broken and are unable to lock. Residents are troubled by the idea that any individual could access their homes, and that NYCHA has not addressed this issue with the urgency that they should. As such, I ask that a bi-weekly inspection is performed to ensure that all front door locks are functioning properly.

Thank you for taking the time to listen and to address these concerns, consistent with all applicable rules and regulations. Any individual concerns will be brought to the attention of your intergovernmental affairs staff, who have been very helpful to my office. I hope you can provide Campos Plaza II residents with a robust plan to improve the living conditions at their development. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jessie Kay in my office at (212) 860-0606.

Very truly yours,



CAROLYN B. MALONEY

Member of Congress